

*The Lord Haversham's Vindication of
his SPEECH in PARLIAM-
ENT, November 15. 1705,*

THE Insults and Scandalous Reflections that have been made upon me in several late *Reviews*, tho' they are beyond all president, yet should have been without any Notice; *Had the Author of those Papers been the only person concern'd in them:* but being convinc'd upon Enquiry from whence he has both his *Incouragement and Instructions*, and being unwilling to be thought guilty by default, or that Silence on my part should go for confession, or Railing on his part go for Reason, I choose rather to appeal from the malicious Insinuations and false Suggestions of those Papers, to the Candid and Impartial Judgment of every unbiass'd Reader, *Than take those Advantages which his Rashness and Impudence, perhaps, have given me.*

I would not have it thought I am entering the Lists with such a *mean and mercenary prostitute as the Author of the Review:* I know better the Regard due to the *Peerage of England* (tho' some have forgot it) than to lessen either that or my self to such a degree. But when a person, my equal (except a few accidental ornaments and advantages which I do not pretend to) *who never yet would give me any Answer Elsewhere, tho' more than once provok'd to it, he's betaken himself to such unusual and unbecoming Methods;* 'tis but Justice to my self to let him see, that as I *covet no Mans favour*, so I do not fear any Mans power so much as to desert my own just Defence in a Compliment.

I begin with the *Reflections made upon my person*, where here it looks very unaccountable, how one that has pretended to *so great Moderation*, as the Author of the *Review*, should be carry'd so much above his *Avow'd Principle in a matter he is so verry little concern'd in.* It must certainly be the force of some Irresistible Temptation, or the occult Quality and malign Influence of some *Ruling Star*, that warm'd and tran-

ported this *State-Mountebank*, when he wrote those Papers, to such a degree above his pretended Moderation-Temper, as to Characterize a person he had not the least knowledge of, with as black Marks of Infamy as he could invent, or durst ventrue upon: *As if for speaking my mind with the Duty of a Subject, and the freedom of an English-man, I became every thing that was not Scandalum Magnatum.*

What a Monster has one Speech made me! he says: 'Tis calculated and screw'd up to a pitch of Malecontent and Chagrin; as if done on purpose to sour the Nation, and Printed with an unpeaceable and mischievous meaning; to be design'd to keep alive a Malecontent Party; by a Mouth bent to Noise and Reflection; by a person malign to the Settlement, in hopes to raise grounds of Clamour; and as one who has a great many ill Ends; that it was spoken with freedom that consists not any where with Duty, Allegiance, Truth, Sense or Respect; with expectation to force a fortune by Railing at his Betters, reviling the Ruler of the People, and accusing the Innocent to please and court a Party; spoken like *Solomon's Fool* with his Eyes in the Ends of the Earth; proposing what is ridiculous and incongruous; calculated to review the heats and dying Quarrels in the Nation, and encourage the follies that Madmen make use of to ruin the Country in such Cases; by a person who fancied Reputation to them that did know he had——it, might serve to push on the Specious Sham to an Extremity and to byass honest ignorant people in his favour, &c.

What a number of unaccountables (as he calls 'em) are here! Whence could he furnish himself with such an Expence of Scandal, or rake together such a Load of Infamy? *But no men charge so furiously as those that are in Compast, and think themselves shot-free by having their Charm and Protection about them.* Being then thus unjustly attack'd, not so much by this Hackney Tool, whom I dispise, as by a M—— in Mascarade, I am compell'd to say those things for my self, which without such provocation would look vain and boasting.

This Scandalous Author (or who ever bid him say so) when he tells the World that I have —— my Reputation, would have done well to have prov'd it by Instance. I have had the honour to have been Employ'd in some publick Stations, and entrusted by some of the chief of his Party, at a time when they thought themselves in no small danger, and when there was not so good an understanding between us: I appeal to the Head of them, whether at his earnest desire, I did not act the Gentleman-part, and serve him faithfully, And tho' afterwards I had the misfortune to fall under the Displeasure of a House of Commons, 'tis as well known as they are, it was for interposing between them and Danger, for too vigirously espousing their Cause:

(3)
Cause; And could never have imagin'd the same way of *Proceeding* in falling upon some, and leaving others who are equally concerned in the same *Facts* (which I always did, and ever shall think very partial) should be lookt upon as unjust when it was some Mens own Case, and quite otherwise when it was the Case of the E—— of N—— in the business of the S——b——. It was my deferring from some men in this affair that I believe was my original Sin; which is never to be forgiven, because it never will be repented of. But what, tho' I am so unfortunate as to differ in some things from those, who, in my opinion, sometimes differ from themselves; I might notwithstanding, both in Justice and Gratitude, have expected better usage, than to be mark'd and singled out like a blown Deer, to be run down the shortest way by such a fowl mouth Mungrel? If I have not deserv'd such a Return (as by their own acknowledgments I can shew I have not) those that serve them better hereafter, may expect, if possible, to be used worse.

The Maxim is as known as ancient, 'Tis the Office shews the Man'. Let any instance then of one single act of *Partiality, Oppression, Corruption or Injustice* during my being in any publick station, be charged upon me: I appeal to the Sea Officers and every common Seaman that knew me, whilst I was in the Admiralty. I made no after advantage by serving any body in the Commission of Accounts, nor was I trusted with any Secrets, tho' I could not sit there without making Remarks as well as others: nor did I ever contrive any Clauses for the Advantage of the Publick Service whilst out of the Ministry, which I forgot when I once got in.

Had I ever been suspected for holding Intelligence with St. Germans or the French King; had my Name been ever used in any French or Scotch Plots, or mention'd in the Confession of any dying Man; had I being an English man, advised the Queen to pass the Act of Security in Scotland, or the Removing or laying aside any of the Great Scotch Lords whilst they were promoting and endeavouring to bring the Succession to bear the two last Sessions of the Scotch Parliament; or had I before that, upon the presumptive Confidence of my own better Judgment, without Communicating the matter to any other person, singly advised the passing the Act of Peace and War in Scotland, and endeavoured to shelter my self from that Imputation, by perswading the World that others who knew nothing of it, were as much concerned in that Advise as my self: These might have been some tolerable groundsto have justified the Pamphleteer's Reflections. But to speak inconsistently with Duty, Allegiance, Truth, Sense, or Respect, before such a Presence, and not be in the Tower; and if I did not, that the Pamphleteer should not be some where else, may seem as strange too as the Railing at my Betters. and reviling my Ruler would be to force a Fortune by court-

ing a Party, who at present are so far from having it in their power to oblige any Body by their Interest, that is look'd upon by some as a Crime to have the honour of so much as the least Acquaintance with them. But this Author who Writes for Bread, and lives by Defamation, thinks those, I perceive, who are known to be under no Inducement of Necessity, govern themselves by his base and mercenary Principles.

'Tis very wonderful, after all, *That a Proposal for Inviting over the Presumptive Heir to the Crown* should expose a Man to all this virulent fury. That a Person only for mentioning it should be called by the Names of Mr. Politicus, Speaking-Trumpet, Grating Saw, &c. Whichever have Read *Great Britains Union, and the Security of the Hannover Succession Consider'd*, will find that matter was thought on many Months before the Paper *Mercurius Politicus* ever appear'd. And tho' the Reviewer is very free in calling this Ridiculous Proposal, incongruous and inconsistent with the General Good; yet perhaps, this very Person would not have been so very Confident, had he seen (as I have) *The Extract of the Princess Sophia's Answer*, dated November 3. 1705. to the Archbishop of Canterbury's Letter; in which are these words, viz. *I am ready and willing to comply with whatever can be desired of me by my Friends, in case that the Parliament think that it is for the good of the Kingdom to invite me to England.* Some Men Reading this, I doubt not, will think again. If we only Considered *what that Proposal has produced*, it might deserve (one would think) better Language. We have had several Acts of Parliament relating to the Succession look'd into since, and their Defects Cured, by which it appears that the Succession was not so Safe as was generally imagined. *A Bill for Naturalizing the Princess Sophia and her Issue*, and another to Establish Regency (in case of the Queen's Demise) sent down to the House of Commons, which those that framed and consented to, thought no doubt, a Security to the Succession. And yet there was not the least Appearance of the Succession's being so much as of in Parliament, when this Proposal was made. So that not to enter into the Consideration, how far these Expedients will be a Security, if they prove as they are thought great ones; He that gave the occasion and rise to them, sure, only for that, cannot deserve to be thus treated.

But I fear there are other Reasons that have rais'd some Person's Spleen: Some perhaps are angry to have heard it said where it was, That there was so great a Favourite as the Duke of Buckingham in King.

James

James the 1st, his time, who (as the Spanish Ambassadour told his Majesty) had besieged him, had Enclosed him with his own Vassals and Servants, and would suffer no one else to have his Majesty's Ear, or so much as come near his Presence, and yet that great man never had half that Power and favour, that we see some Persons now possessed of.

They care not to hear of Cares laid upon all Court-Preferments; or of Persons being so fat with Favour and great Offices, as make them insensible of the pressing necessity a great part of the Nation labours under.

Others do not like it should be said that whenever there is a Dispute between a Parliament and a Minister, either the Minister will be too hard for the Parliament; and there's an End of your Constitution: or the Parliament will be too hard for your Minister, and there's an End of your Minister.

But for he Author of the Review, 'tis impossible he should Ever be hearty for Inviting the Princess of Hannover hither; even upon the very foot he puts it: For if the Presumptive Heir ought not to be invited hither (as he says) till the Press is restrained by Law, that virulent Lampoons, Memorials, and the like, may not swarm every day in the streets; one in his Circumstances would soon be reduced to a starving condition.

I should have said no more on this last Head; having formerly more than once given the world an Account, not only of the Security to the Constitution, but of the Advantages the Nation would have by the presumptive Heir to the Crown residing here: Were it not for some very extravagant and dangerous Expressions of this Pamphleteer; (which one would wonder should not have been taken Notice of before now in another manner) he says, he cannot foresee the security of the Queen from the Heirs being at her Elbow: And for fear these dark terms should not be truly understood, but lye hid as he calls it like the Poyson of Asps under the Tongue; in another place (*Rev. Numb. 115. Page 460.*) he spits the Venom out, and tells the World plainly,-----

Such is the Corruption of Mankind, and the General depravation has spread to such a height; Nature has receiv'd such a Universal taint, that Jealousies have spread into the nearest Relations; Fathers have been Jealous of their own Children; and we have some instances even of Men murdering their own Flesh and Blood on these Accounts, besides what we find among the Turks.-----

And if I should instance very near home, I have such Authority on my side as few People Question.

This

This is such a groundless two Edged Scandal, and Published at such a Conjunction, that no Man, I think, can read without abhorrence.

The next thing I am charged with, is, a heightning the Miscarriages of the War, rendring our Allies suspected, and loading the Dutch and Imperialists, as if they had betray'd and abandon'd us.

But the very stating Matter of Fact is enough to wipe off this Scandal. There were two great Attempts design'd (besides the passing the French Lines) this last Campaign worthy the Conduct of our General, viz. That on the Mozelle, and that at Overisch; had either of which succeeded, it had soon put an end to this chargeable War; and that they did not succeed is known to every body: I would then ask any Man, To whom are these two disappointments to be imputed? The Answer to this Question, I doubt not, would clear me from all the Malicious Insinuations of this Insolent Scribler. It is possible for any Man to imagin the D. of M. would have march'd the Grand Army some hundred Miles upon a Design he knew he was not strong enough to put in execution, without the Assistance of Prince Lewis of Baden's Army, which he must have depended upon? Can any Man think that Matter was not first concerted? And if so, whence was it, that when the D. of M. had cover'd that Prince from the French, he was not join'd by him as was expected? By which conjunction Saar Louis, which the F. left uncover'd, had fall'n into our hands, and a free and easy passage open'd into France; and for want of which, a very promising Design was totally defeated: (And as the Reviewers confesses) our Affairs had a bad Aspect at the unhappy baulk at the Mozelle.

Again, in the business of Overich, *did not the Dutch Deputies march near three days in their Company with the D. of M. and in all that time did they ever make any exception against the Designs, Yet when it came to be put in Execution, when a fair opportunity offer'd, and Victory in a manner Courted us, there not being half the Danger and Difficulty there, as at Blinheim; Could any Arguments perswade them to consent to venture a Battel? have not the Letters of the D. of M. and Monsieur A — — — que been made publick? And was there not a Book Call'd the D — — — h Politicks Examin'd; &c. — — — Printed before the Parliament met, that Carries this Mater much higher than ever I did, which I never yet heard was Answer'd? and must I only not be allow'd to speak of such things without Lying*

Lying under the lash of a Scandalous Pen, and look'd upon as an Enemy to the Confederates? But the most wonderful part of all this, is, that those Persons, who before were so full of those matters, that they could scarce forbear shewing their *Repentment* of the usage the D. of M. met with, have ever since this was mention'd by me, made it their business to give it a quite different turn. However, let this Snarler, or those who employ him, be as angry as they please; when I read the joynt Address of both Houses of *Parliament* (which he might have been more Ingenious than to have mangl'd as he has done) and read how earnestly they intreat Her Majesty 'By all proper means to excite the whole Confederacy to *make early and effectual preparations, and to exert their utmost Vigour in the prosecution of the War against France; I must be of Opinion, that they had very good Grounds for what they did, which sufficiently justifies me.*

There is one thing more, which is so very ridiculous, 'tis scarce worth notice, viz. how this Learned Critick labours, and is put to it, to bring the business of Barcelona within the Construction of what I said. 'Tis so common a Rule, that words are to be understood according to their subject Matter, there is scarce a Schoolboy who does not know it: And from the beginning to the end of that Speech, there is not the least Intimation or Glance of any thing done in Spain. But 'tis all one to him whether that be so or not, he never considers the Gramatical Construction of words; but right or wrong, *the World is to be told, that I throw black scandals upon and contradict my Lord P—d, the King of Spain's Letter, the Queen's Speech, &c. and prevaricate the Fact, that the Paper is a Libel, and deserves to be burnt by the Common Hangman.*

Thus he has dress'd up a Man of Straw of his own, and then lays about him most unmercifully; he might as well have brought in the Czar of Muscovy and the King of Sweden's Wars within the Compass of these Words, *Thus ended the Campaign, as our Operations in Catalonia.* I could not look towards Barcelona and forget Portugal, from whence I have seen a Letter giving an account how Monsieur Fagel, at the head of 20000 Men very quietly let the Marschal de Thesse, with 8000 Men, (which he might have cut in pieces) march within Pistol Shot of him, and Relieve the Town of Badajos, and how kindly he was Received at home upon his Return, is well known.

I shall say no more at present, but leave it to the Judgment of any indifferent and impartial Reader how far by that Speech I have push'd on any

any specious Sham to byass the Ignorant & Honest people in my favour, or how far I have been treated as any man might expect.

In short, tho' no man rejoices more in our successes every where than my self, yet I cannot but remember that it often happens in War as in Races, where sometimes those that win a Heat may lose the Plate, which I heartily wish may never be our Case.

And as for those who set this person at work, however they have made a shift thinking to kee up their Reputation with some, which they have lost with others, yet they are so well known by both, as not to be so long trusted by either, and whenever it shall happen they have nothing but their own merit and interest to support them, I doubt not but they will find their own Reputation as low in the world as they Endeavour to make that of others: And in the mean time their present fears unsteadiness and mistrust of every body, make them not only very uneasy to themselves, but the very Contempt and Property of those they depend on.

There are two other points, which the Limits of this Paper will but just give me leave to mention, viz. Liberty of Speech in Parliament and the present State of Affairs in Holland with Relation to Trade, and the Expence of the present War: As to the first of these, I should think my self Felo-de-se, should I go to dispute it: And for the second, it were very easy for me to show the advantages the Dutch have over us at this time in the point of Commerce. And whenever a just account is given of what Remittances, Bulloine and Money in Specie have been sent to Holland since this War (which I would be very glad to see) that matter, I am confident, will appear as Evident as that the Species of our Coin lessens daily, whilst that of the Dutch encreases. But it would be very well for England if no just occasion were given to take further notice of this Matter.

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